

target point and the microphone location point.

(3) *Ground cover* means any of various low, dense-growing plants, such as ivy, myrtle, low weeds, or brush.

(4) *Traffic railing* means any longitudinal highway traffic barrier system installed along the side or median of a highway. For the purpose of this part, a traffic railing must have at least 35 percent of its vertical height, from the ground surface to the top of the railing, open to free space in order to qualify as an acceptable object within a noise measurement test site. Further, for the purposes of this part, posts or

other discrete supports shall be ignored when ascertaining open free space.

(5) *Relatively flat* when used to describe a noise measurement site means a site which does not contain significant concave curvatures or slope reversals that may result in the focusing of sound waves toward the microphone location point.

§ 325.7 Allowable noise levels.

Motor vehicle noise emissions, when measured according to the rules of this part, shall not exceed the values specified in Table 1.

TABLE 1.—MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE SOUND LEVEL READINGS (DECIBEL (A))^{1, 2}

	Highway operation test				Stationary tests	
	Soft site		Hard Site		Soft site	Hard site
	35 mi/h or less	Above 35 mi/h	35 mi/h or less	Above 35 mi/h		
If the distance between the microphone location point and the microphone target point is—						
31 ft (9.5m) or more but less than 35 ft (10.7m)	87	91	89	93	89	91
35 ft (10.7m) or more but less than 39 ft (11.9m)	86	90	88	92	88	90
39 ft (11.9m) or more but less than 43 ft (13.1m)	85	89	87	91	87	89
43 ft (13.1m) or more but less than 48 ft (14.6m)	84	88	86	90	86	88
48 ft (14.6m) or more but less than 58 ft (17.1m)	83	87	85	89	85	87
58 ft (17.1m) or more but less than 70 ft (21.3m)	82	86	84	88	84	86
70 ft (21.3m) or more but less than 83 ft (25.3m)	81	85	83	87	83	85

¹ The speeds shown refer to measurements taken at sites having speed limits as indicated. These speed limits do not necessarily have to be posted.

² This table is based on motor carrier noise emission requirements specified in 40 CFR 202.20 and 40 CFR 202.21.

[40 FR 42437, Sept. 12, 1975, as amended at 54 FR 50385, Dec. 6, 1989]

§ 325.9 Measurement tolerances.

(a) Measurement tolerances will be allowed to take into account the effects of the following factors:

(1) The consensus standard practice of reporting filed sound level measurements to the nearest whole decibel.

(2) Variations resulting from commercial instrument tolerances.

(3) Variations resulting from the topography of the noise measurement site.

(4) Variations resulting from atmospheric conditions such as wind, ambient temperature, and atmospheric pressure.

(5) Variations resulting from reflected sound from small objects allowed within the test site.

(6) The interpretation of the effects of the above cited factors by enforcement personnel.

(b) Measurement tolerances shall not exceed 2 decibels for a given measurement.

Subpart B—Administrative Provisions

§ 325.11 Issuance, amendment, and revocation of the rules in this part.

The procedures specified in part 389 of this chapter for the issuance, amendment, or revocation of the Federal